

Second, Congress should take a close look at restoring some ownership limits. I have no problem with a company like News Corp. (although I can't stand them personally) owning AM-FM-TV and a newspaper in a major market like New York. I would probably also have no problem with a company being able to own 2 AMs and 2 FMs along with a TV station and a newspaper in a major market. But major markets only. Below a certain level (any suggestions?), it should be 1 AM, 1 FM and 1 TV station and no print cross-ownership - at least not without a waiver from the FCC after the individual situation has been examined.

And total media ownership by a single company shouldn't be allowed to cover more than 33% of the country. I'm open to suggestions on how much any over-the-air media company should be allowed to expand into cable.

And - oh yes - any company threatening to bar airplay of recordings by a particular artist unless that artist promotes his or her concerns through them should be brought up on Federal charges - with jail terms in the offing.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Hugh

Hugh Christopher Henry
957 East 37th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11210-3431
USA

Home: 1-718-421-4288
Cell: 1-718-614-9463

CC: hch3@webtv.net

From: ethandep
To: Mike Powell
Date: Mon, Apr 28, 2003 11:24 PM
Subject: FCC Rules

Dear Sir,

We wish to register our FIRM OPPOSITION to the proposed rules changes on media ownership that are now being considered by the FCC..Allowing consolidation and cross ownership of the news media creates monopolies and will eventually result in censorship of the news.

We want to hear and see all sides of the news of the world, and have the privilege of forming our own opinions from many diverse viewpoints.

Please do not weaken or eliminate rules that now control mergers and acquisitions.

Respectfully,

Seymour Epstein

Ethel Epstein

Sun City West, AZ.

From: ethandep
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Mon, Apr 28, 2003 11:30 PM
Subject: : FCC Rules

Dear Sir,

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Seymour Epstein

Ethel Epstein

Sun City West, AZ.

From: Brad Thacker
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2003 12:05 AM
Subject: Dereguation of the media

To the FCC commissioners:

I am writing to express my concern about the continuing deregulation of the mass media in the United States. Since the passage of the Federal Communications Act of 1996, the United States has seen an unprecedented consolidation of the media into a handful of large corporations. Over 80% of all the media outlets in this country are now owned by less than ten companies, and this consolidation threatens the very lifeblood of our democracy - diversity of opinion. I am terribly concerned that the centralization of radio, television, and newspapers across the country in the hands of giant corporations leaves no room for community input, and marginalizes the voices of those whose perspectives differ from the mainstream. The FCC has an obligation to ensure all Americans have a voice in our society so that we citizens get the widest possible range of viewpoints. The consolidation of radio has consumed many stations that once gave voice to local communities. And now the consolidation of television and print into the hands of GE, Time Warner, Disney, Fox, and a few others, threatens to give monolithic control to the corporate viewpoint.

While I believe corporations have the right to own media and present their message to the American public, it is irresponsible and dangerous to have that be the sole voice of our society. We need a diversity of sources at the local as well as national level to ensure a healthy democracy. Please do not deregulation the few controls we have left over this juggernaut.

Sincerely,

Brad Thacker
Lakewood, CO

From: Brad Thacker
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2003 12:05 AM
Subject: Deregulation of the media

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Sincerely,

Brad Thacker
Lakewood, CO

From: Barcrs@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2003 12:11 AM
Subject: Monopolies in the Media

Dear Commisisoner:

I understand there is to be an important meeting in early June to make decisions re the consolidation of television companies, etc.

It is disturbing to know that fewer and fewer owners are buying more and more media outlets. This is not the direction a free society would persue.

I urge you to postpone this meeting and make this issue widely available to all the outlets at your disposal so that we citizens can speak to the issue.

Sincerely,
Barbara J. Nearing
7236 S. Juniper St.
Tempe, Az 85283-4810
barcrs@aol.cm

From: Carol Ann Goldstein
To: john_mccain@mccain.senate.gov, hollings@senate.gov, boxer@senate.gov, Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2003 12:33 AM
Subject: Re: Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation.

4-28-2003

Senator John McCain, Senator Fritz Hollings,
Senator Barbara Boxer, FCC Chairman Michael Powell,
FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin,
FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Thank you,
Carol Ann Goldstein
San Diego, California

Do you Yahoo!?
The New Yahoo! Search - Faster. Easier. Bingo.
<http://search.yahoo.com>

From: Howard Cohen
To: Mike Powell
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2003 1:07 AM
Subject: Media Deregulation--NO!!

Dear Mr. Powell,

I'm deeply concerned about the attempts at allowing the media to be controlled by a smaller and smaller group of media conglomerates. The deregulation being attempted would be a serious blow to our democracy. We need a return to the Fairness Doctrine, or America will no longer stand as a free society of which have always been proud. Hopefully, your conscience will arouse you in this matter, rather than your pocketbook.

Sincerely,
Howard Cohen

From: jenpendoll@hotmail.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2003 1:33 AM
Subject: Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

The FCC must consider the unique needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules.

Children consume almost five and a half hours of media per day. Research has shown that media, particularly television, play a unique and powerful role in children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Turner
1080 Franquette Ave
San Jose, California 95125

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Zoe Lofgren

From: michael_de_sousa@hotmail.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2003 1:39 AM
Subject: Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

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Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Michael De Sousa
750 warfield ave.
oakland, California 94610

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Barbara Lee

From: John Hays
Date: Tue, Apr 29, 2003 2:29 AM
Subject: Re: Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation.

Dear Commissioner:

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Sincerely,

John Hays
1120 N. Curson Av., #4
W. Hollywood CA 90064-5400

02-277

From: Kristina Boerger
To: Mike Powell
Date: 3/31/03 4:54PM
Subject: Airwave censorship

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am one citizen aware that the conglomerates controlling the preponderance of our airwaves are blacklisting voices that communicate -- or have been interpreted as communicating -- a message that opposes war.

For SHAME!! Freedom of expression begins at home, and I am writing to urge you to reopen the airwaves.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristina Boerger

RECEIVED

APR 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

From: Peggie Feddersen
To: Mike Powell
Date: 4/3/03 8:42PM
Subject: limited access to news coverage

02-277
EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Please do not allow the centralization of news dispensing media to continue. A free press cannot be owned by the rich who choose the people in government and control information to the citizens. Are you for a Pravda-like news? You surely seem like it; but maybe you are one of those rich people who like to own the government to your own advantage. You should be ashamed.

Peggie Feddersen
Raleigh, NC

RECEIVED

APR 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

02-277

From: MediaManr Productions
To: Mike Powell
Date: 4/5/03 1:19PM
Subject: Must Limit Consolidation & Mergers

RECEIVED

APR 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Powell and other FCC Commissioners:

The Republican party claims to be the party of "less government," of "small business" and "open and fair competition." Yet the FCC, I'm told, is now pushing for (accepting) consolidation of national media and is likely to approve the merger and consolidation of national and international media outlets. Folks, your boss's bias for big business and pro monopolistic policies are a clear indication that the key principle of the Republican party is MONEY and nothing more. All the other claims are bogus smoke screens to keep the masses content.

Please resist the temptation to suck up to George Junior and deny the mergers and consolidation of media outlets his campaign for re-election is pushing for. Approving these mergers will be a major mistake for all Americans and for the producers of independent programming. Junior may be willing to sell off the principles of his party for his re-election coffers, but you don't have to be blind, mindless clones of his. Show some guts. Stand on virtue and principle. And go to church every Sunday without the guilt of screwing over the American public for George's (and his friends') personal gains. Remember that your actions will be judged by Americans over time, and regardless of the monetary or political gains you get in the short term, you will also have to meet God one day. When you do, will you stand tall?... or feel the heat that your selfish, hurtful actions during your life create for you?

Please be a good American, not a good Republican... Will Reynolds,
Nashville, TN

willreynolds@mediamanproductions.com

CC: Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

From: Jonathan G. Leonard
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/17/03 8:40PM
Subject: <No Subject>

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

02-227
RECEIVED

APR 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Commissioner Adelstein,

It is my understanding that as early as June 2 the FCC could change media regulations allowing more media mergers to take place that would further decrease the number of owners of media outlets. I have deep concerns that large media companies such as AOL Time Warner, Bertelsmann, Disney, and Gannet will only service the wealthy in the USA. In general these large corporations support reducing taxes for the rich, are anti-union, and have no qualms about shipping jobs overseas. I fear that American democracy may be threatened if regulations are further relaxed. Please thoroughly study the potential effects of deregulation before making your decision. Thank You,

Sincerely, Jonathan Leonard, Richmond, VT

From: Kathleen Herrington
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/18/03 9:36AM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

RECEIVED

APR 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Kathleen Herrington (kathleen.herrington@sba.gov) writes:

Commissioner Adelstein,
I ask you to carefully consider your voting responsibility when you vote on whether to further deregulate the ownership of broadcasting media. The loss of ownership diversity would severely erode the foundation on which our country's democratic values stand. I ask you -- please, do not cast a vote in favor of the destruction of media diversity.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Herrington
Public Information Officer
U.S. Small Business Administration

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 63.168.79.6
Remote IP address: 63.168.79.6

From: John Hurd
To: Undisclosed-Recipient::@fcc.gov
Date: 4/18/03 6:16PM
Subject: Reinstate the Fairness Doctrine

RECEIVED

APR 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Commissioner:

Regarding the upcoming FCC vote, further consolidation of the media in the false name of "deregulation" must be halted and in fact reversed. TV and radio news in the hands of a handful of profit-driven corporations has undermined our democracy more than any other modern force except the high cost of broadcast commercials during elections. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide crucial unbiased information to the public about most public issues, most notably the drive to war in Iraq. As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to break up the media conglomerates, to open the spectrum to a wide diversity of organizations and independent journalists, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

Thank you,

John Hurd, a citizen concerned for democracy

Clinton, WA

From: Kara McLaughlin
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/18/03 7:16PM
Subject: my part in democracy

RECEIVED

APR 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Mr. Adelstein,

I am disturbed that the FCC will be voting this June 2nd about media regulations that will affect all Americans profoundly, especially on their ability to partake in our democracy, and that you have not made concerted efforts to publicize this vote to the owners of the airways, the public! If it is the public's "property" should not the public be privy to this information that will directly affect them (including myself)?

I implore you to do what you were nominated to do, protect the public and our national airways, that are vital lifelines to our democracy.
Thank you.

A concerned owner,
Kara McLaughlin

From: Priscilla Fox
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/18/03 8:13PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Priscilla Fox (pfox@adelphia.net) writes:

Dear Commissioner Adelstein,

I urge you to hold widespread public hearings before moving forward on any further deregulation of media ownership. One company should not be allowed to own more than one type of media outlet in a given market. Please uphold the spirit of the First Amendment and ensure that the US can retain a truly free press.

Sincerely,
Priscilla Fox
Montpelier, VT

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 24.54.41.147
Remote IP address: 24.54.41.147

From: Marrisa S. Caldwell
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/18/03 9:41PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Marrisa S. Caldwell (marriscaldwell@yahoo.com) writes:

I believe that it's very important to maintain as much diversity in ownership of media outlets in all markets as possible. Please don't relax the ownership requirements; we need a free press in this country and with single ownership comes a single view point.

Please consider that I am one of many people who feel this way and it's up to the FCC to hear these voices and not bow to pressure from the media industry.

Thank you for your time,

Marrisa S. Caldwell
Vermont

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 65.56.12.109
Remote IP address: 65.56.12.109

From: Cassandra Edson, Esq.
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/18/03 10:10PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Cassandra Edson, Esq. (cassandraedson@hotmail.com) writes:

Dear Commissioner Adelstein:

I am very concerned about the potential that the Commission will act to deregulate communications so that a company owning one form of media can also own all types of other media in the same area. I fear this will lead to monopolies and the inability of smaller companies to gain a piece of the market and express varying views. I urge the Commission to solicit extensive public comment, to allow a significant period of time in which to receive commentary, and to hold act with deliberation in considering this potential change. It is my opinion that such a change would be detrimental to a free market place of goods, services and ideas.

Thank you for considering my view.

Sincerely,

Cassandra S. Edson
33 St. Paul St.
Montpelier, VT 05602

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 64.30.55.226
Remote IP address: 64.30.55.226

From: didier murat
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/19/03 10:29AM
Subject: Public comment

Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein,

I urge you to hold public meetings before making any changes to the current media ownership limitations.

It is my belief that the public will be losing the diversity it needs in gathering informative news, un-homogenized points of view, if a few corporations are left to control our airwaves, and printed news.

Sincerely,

Didier Murat

1251 Greenbush road

Charlotte, VT 05445 USA

(802) 425 5083

From: Natalia Fajardo
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/19/03 3:45PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Natalia Fajardo (powerpuff@uol.com.co) writes:

Commissioner Adelstein,

I am aware that on June 2nd the Commission is likely to vote on relaxing several regulations for print media, and it seems there will be an attempt to allow for one company to control more outlets in one market.

As the US has seen since 1996, when the rules for radio were relaxed, such a change would result in fewer and fewer points of view being expressed in our media.

I ask you to at least hold a significant public discussion before moving forward with any dramatic changes. our media need to be fed by different views for it to be rich and neutral.

Thanks fot taking the time to read this comment and I hope to hear from you soon.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 65.19.76.173
Remote IP address: 65.19.76.173

From: Leo Elovitz
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/19/03 5:35PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Leo Elovitz (lelovitz@fastnetit.com) writes:

I am opposed to Chairmen Powell's proposal to deregulate what little is left of the FCC's rules and regulations that were originally designed to prevent total monopolization and centralization of media ownership. My main concern is for what appears to be the rapidly dwindling access that American citizens have to unbiased and uncensored news and current events. It is painfully obvious that as the means of distribution for news becomes more and more consolidated under the control of fewer and fewer entities of private ownership, the more censored the scope of news stories in our world and nation becomes and the more biased and narrow the shows and opinionated spokesmen become for the point of view dictated by the ownership. Clear Channel is an excellent example of the failure of deregulation in this regard, giving one corporation extraordinary power and domination over huge markets with little or no competition. Case in point, Clear Channel has effectively censored any opinion!

or information that does not support the motives of the current Administration, effectively cutting off access to factual information that Americans have a right to know. Promoting deregulation will effectively consolidate all news and information into the control of a few corporate giants. Even broadband access will come under centralized consolidation and control. This is an extremely dangerous situation.

The removal of what were once laws to prevent common ownership of both newspapers and broadcast media in the same geographic area has resulted in the rapid centralization of media and a corresponding decline of diversity of opinion and news information. Managed by the views of the ownership or directors that control them, these centralized news sources censor news that don't support their views. The same centralized media promote talk shows with hosts who evangelize their positions, leaving a vacuum of existing contrary opinion and facts. Just look at Fox news. And ABC, NBC and CBS all appear to have jumped on the bandwagon of selective and biased news reporting. We are living in a country that is looking more and more similar to what we once viewed in the communist nations as the "state controlled media."

The United States cannot remain a free and democratic republic if its citizens are deprived of a free press. In a nation where all news and information is highly censored and extremely biased to shape public opinion to the ends of a small group, its citizens will have lost the ability to make informed and intelligent choices. I strongly urge you to oppose any further FCC deregulation with all of your available resources.

Sincerely,

Leo Elovitz
Buellton, CA

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: 198.31.206.51
Remote IP address: 198.31.206.51

From: Mike Rifen or Carolyn Woodley
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 4/19/03 7:39PM
Subject: Sioux Falls Technology Summit

Jonathan

I had the good fortune to sit in on your afternoon workshop in Sioux Fall.

What concerns me about further consolidations of media is not the lack of diversity of programming or further homogenizing of entertainment. What concerns me is, the people who control the media, control the information.

The 2000 election coverage was one-sided enough, we certainly don't need more concentration. The mid-term elections were as close to not being covered as they could possible have been. As you recall, there was around-the-clock coverage of the Washington, DC sniper. Although the sniper story was important, it served two purposes: one, to instill fear in people (good for the Republicans), and two, to pre-empt any meaningful dialoged about the elections.

I realize that the deck is stacked against you, but I (for one) would certainly appreciate everything you can do to press for public hearings. I am still not sure how we would go about letting the public know what is going on, it is certainly not in the interests of existing media to do so.

Thank you for all of your hard work

Mike Rifen